

Report of the Meeting

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity

(NACIQI)

August 23, 2016



_____/s/_____
Susan D. Phillips Ph.D., Chair

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DISCLAIMER

This report summarizes the deliberations of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its August 23, 2016 meeting. The NACIQI is an advisory committee established by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, and is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This report represents the views of the NACIQI. The report has not been reviewed for approval by the Department of Education, and therefore, the report's recommendations do not purport to represent the views of the Department.

Executive Summary

NACIQI was most recently authorized by Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. NACIQI's primary functions include advising the Secretary of Education on the establishment and enforcement of criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies under Subpart 2 of Part H, Title IV, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), as well as the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations or a specific State approval agency. The NACIQI also advises the Secretary on the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, of the HEA, including the relationship between accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and state licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.

NACIQI met to carry out its responsibilities to advise the senior Department official with respect to the recognition of accrediting agencies at its August 23, 2016 meeting via teleconference.

NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications at its August 23, 2016 meeting:

- Four applications for renewal of recognition from accrediting agencies; and
- One compliance report from an accrediting agency.

Except for a recommendation regarding one accrediting agency, Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges, NACIQI's recommendations concur with the staff recommendations. NACIQI reviews all information submitted by an agency in support of its petition, as well as the staff analysis and report. NACIQI continued its pilot project and considered data provided by the [accreditor data dashboards](#) as part of its review process.

NACIQI members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Susan Phillips (Chair), Arthur Keiser (Vice Chair), Kathleen Sullivan Alioto, Simon Boehme, Jill Derby, Roberta Derlin, Anne Neal, Richard O'Donnell, Arthur Rothkopf, Cameron Staples, Ralph Wolff, Frank Wu, and Federico Zaragoza. While the transcript reflects no audio from Member Zaragoza, he confirmed after the meeting via e-mail that he was present on the call as reflected via WebEx. Member Zaragoza also stated that he voted with the majority in every roll call vote. U.S. Department of Education representatives who participated in the meeting included: NACIQI Executive Director and Designated Federal Official Jennifer Hong, Accreditation Director Herman Bounds, Sally Morgan and Donna Mangold (Office of the General Counsel), Nicole Harris, Valerie Lefor, Charles Mula, Steve Porcelli, and Rachael Shultz.

Summary of Agency-Related Actions

The following agencies were acted on using NACIQI's standard review procedures. For renewal of recognition applications, the review also included pilot project questions:

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities

Action for Consideration: Compliance Report

Recommendation: Vote 11 - 1

Continue the agency's recognition for one and one-half years.

Discussion: NACIQI concurred with the staff recommendation.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Roberta Derlin, Ph.D.

Cameron C. Staples, J.D.

Representatives of the Agency:

Sandra E. Elman | President, NWCCU

Pamela Goad | Vice President, NWCCU

Thomas R. Case | Retired General, Chancellor, University of Alaska Anchorage

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Recommendation: Vote 10 – 2 (Recusals: Keiser)

Renew the agency's recognition for a period of five years.

Discussion: NACIQI recommended a recognition period of five years as requested by the agency. The agency testified that the one finding was resolved before the NACIQI meeting but after submission of the final staff analysis; Department staff concurred.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Jill Derby, Ph.D.

Cameron C. Staples, J.D.

Representative of the Agency:

Duane B. Kramer | Chair of the Commission, ACCSC, Universal Technical Institute

Michale S. McComis, Ed.D. | Executive Director/CEO, ACCSC

Christopher D. Lambert | Associate Executive Director, ACCSC

Karen Marcinski | Director of Member Services, ACCSC

Third Party Oral Commenters:

- 1) Juliet Mee | Director, Professional Massage Training Center, Inc.

American Osteopathic Association, Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA)

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote 12 – 0

Continue the agency's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time, and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criteria listed in the final staff analysis, and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

Discussion: NACIQI concurred with the staff recommendation.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Simon J. Boehme

Richard F. O'Donnell

Representative of the Agency:

Alissa Craft, DO, MBA | Vice President, Accreditation, COCA

Joshua Prober, JD | General Counsel & Senior Vice President, American Osteopathic Association

Kenneth Johnson, DO | Chair, COCA

Council on Occupational Education

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition (Recusals: Keiser)

Committee Recommendation: Vote 12 - 1

Renew the agency's recognition for a period of five years.

Discussion: NACIQI concurred with the staff recommendation.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Arthur E. Keiser, Ph.D.

Cameron C. Staples, J.D.

Representative of the Agency:

Gary Puckett | President and Executive Director, COE

Alfonzo Salazar | Commission Chair and Administrator, Home Life and Community Services, Inc.

Mr. Charles Johnson | Commission Member and Commission Executive Committee Member, Excellence Unlimited

Cynthia C. Sheldon | Associate Executive Director – Agency Operations, COE

Derin P. Dickerson | Partner, Alston and Bird, LLP

Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools, Accreditation Commission (TRACS)

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote 10 – 3

Continue the agency's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time, and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criteria listed in the final staff analysis, and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

Discussion: NACIQI concurred with the staff recommendation.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Timothy W. Eaton, Ph.D. | TRACS President/CEO

James Flanagan, Ph.D. | TRACS Accreditation Commission, Chair, Luther Rice College and Seminary, President

Benson M. Karanja, Ed.D. | TRACS Accreditation Commission, Vice Chair, Beulah Heights University, President

Ron Cannon, D.Min. | VP/COO, TRACS